



Neighbor Appreciation Day Student Art Contest Winner, HALIMO GADO

OF THURGOOD MARSHALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

On February 10th, 2007, Seattle celebrated its 13th annual Neighbor Appreciation Day. It is a day of backyard cook-outs, pancake breakfasts, block parties, and com-

munity volunteer receptions. Neighbors take time to recognize good deeds done throughout the year by giving one another Neighbor Appreciation Day cards. The artwork adorning the cards is the winner of an annual student art contest to find the best depiction of neighbors helping neighbors.

This year's winner of the Student Art Contest is Halimo Gado, a 9 year-old Somali girl from Thurgood Marshall who has only been in the United States a short time. Her art showed neighbors working in a garden together,

with stark and vibrant colors, that stood out from the hundreds of entries made in this year's contest. The first prize was \$100.

Mayor Nickels and Council Members Sally Clark and David Della were on hand to recognize the art contest winners and runners-up with certificates and checks,

while Neighborhoods
Director Stella Chao read
out their names with an
image of their art projected on a big screen.
Family, friends, and teachers from all over Seattle
attended the event.

As is customary, the award ceremony was held at the winner's school, and Thurgood Marshall principal Winnifred Todd, teacher Sharon Nakanishi-Acena, and art teacher Taryn Piller were all on hand as well as much of Halimo's family.

Cards adorned with Halimo's work are still

available at City Hall, Neighborhood Service Centers, Seattle Libraries, and by contacting Peter McGraw, Public Information Officer at (206) 615-0950, or by email at peter.mcgraw@seattle.gov



Mayor Greg Nickels and Councilmember Sally Clark award Halimo Gado 1st place. Left to right: Winnifred Todd, Principal of Thurgood Marshall, Sharon Nakanishi-Acena, 4th/5th Grade Teacher, Taryn Piller,

Art Teacher, CM Sally Clark, Halimo Gado, Mayor Nickels.

Si aad ugu akhrido sheekadaan afsoomaali, fadlan aad bogga 2aad (ama akhri bogga labaad)

Waxaa ku guulaysatay tartankii ardayda ee masawirka maalinta Bogaadinta Deriska, XALIIMO GADO

oo ka socotay Dugsiga Dhexe ee Thurgool Marshall

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lacag la,aan ku shaqaynaya. Maalintaan waa maalin dadka deriska ah ay waqti u helaan wanaag loo galay sannadka gudihiisa oo ay ka mahad naqaan ayagoo isugu hanbalyaaynaya hab ay isku weydaarsanayaan warqad qoraalo muujinaya maalinta Bogaadinta Deriska. Masawirka ku qoran warqad qoraalkas yar ayaa wuxuu ku guuleystaa tartanka masawirka ee ardayda si loo ogaado masawirada kaararkaas ku qoran midka sida ugu wanaagsan ugu muujinaya daris caawinaya daris kale.

Sannadkaan waxaa tartanka masawirka ardayda ku guulaysatay Xaliimo Gado oo ah gabar yar oo soomaaliyeed oo 9 jir ah oo ka socotay dugsiga Dhexe ee Thurgood Marshall, gabadhaasi waxay joogtay dalka maraykanka mudo gaaban keliya. Waxaa masawirkeedii muujiyey deris wada jir beer uga shaqaynaya wuxuuna masawirkaas lahaa bidhaan asli ah iyo midabo nuuraya oo qurxoon. Masawirkaan ayaa ishu aad u qabatay markii la barbar dhigay boqolaal masawir oo kale oo ka qayb qaatay tartanka sanadkaan. Waxaa abaal marintii koowaad ahayd \$100.



dhaweyn ay qabtaan dad Mayor Greg Nickels with Halimo and her siblings.

Waxaa goobta abaal marinta joogay Duga magaalada, Greg Nickels iyo xubnaha gollaha ka tirsan ee kala ah Sally Clark iyo David Della kuwaas oo halkaas u joogay si ay u aqoonsadaan dadkii ku guulaystay tartanka masawirka iyo dadkii u tartamayay oo u gudoonsiiyaan Shahaadooyin iyo jeegag. Waxaa maamulaha Derisyada, Stella Chao ay kor u akhriday magacyadooda ayadoo isla markaasna lagu muujimuuqaalka navav

masawiraday sawireen shaashad aad u weyn. Waxaa xafladaas ka qayb qaatay ehelo, asxaab, iyo macalimiin ka kala yimid daafaha magaalada Siyaatal.

Sida caadadu tahay, waxaa xaflada abaal marinta lagu qabtay qofka guuleystay iskuulkiisa kaas oo ah Thurgood Marshall. Waxaa meesha joogay maamulihii iskuulka, Winnifred Todd, macalimad Sharon Nakanishi-Acena iyo macalimada masawirka barta, Taryn Piller, waxaa sidoo kale halkaas joogay eheladii Xaliimo.

Kaarar muujinaya Haliimo masawirkay samaysay ayaa wali laga heli karaa Xarunta Magaalada ee loo yaqaan (City Hall), Sidoo kale waxaa kaararkaas laga heli karaa Xarumaha Adeega Deriska ee magaalada Siyaatal, Maktabadaha Siyaatal ama hadaad la xariirto Masuulka qaabilsan arrimaha warbixinta bulshada, Peter McGraw oo Telefoonkiisu Yahay 206-615-0950 ama aad kula soo xariiri karto iimeylkiisa ah: peter.mcgraw@seattle.gov

Combined District Council Holds

COMMUNITY BUILDING WORKSHOP

Months of planning culminated in a Saturday workshop that, by all accounts, was a big success. Over 117 neighbors, representatives from every district of the City, met in the Bertha Knight Landes room of City Hall on Saturday, January 27th to hear from a panel of neighborhood experts who spoke from their own personal experiences.

Ron Boddie kicked off the panel with some advice about the challenge of organizing in his Central area neighborhood. "I am a

COMBINED DISTRICT COUNCIL continued on page 7.



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HAPPEN IGS BALLARD Your neighborhood

NEIGHBORS SAY NO TO NEW BILLBOARD

Clear Channel Communications has proposed relocating one of its existing double faced outdoor advertising signs from the stadium district to a location just north of the Ballard Bridge. The proposed location at 4810 15th NW would accommodate an outdoor advertising structure 48 feet wide and 50 feet in height. Because the city's outdoor advertising sign agreement with Clear Channel has a requirement for dispersion, the existing, much smaller sign at 4900 15th NW would need to be removed or relocated. The location proposed for the new sign is on the northeast corner of 15th NW and NW Leary Way. Many feel that the sign would dominate the landscape and would be the first thing seen as you cross the Ballard Bridge. For this reason, several neighbors have provided comments opposing the relocation of the new billboard and have also separately requested that the existing billboard be relocated away from the Ballard community.

CENTRAL

PUBLIC SAFETY GROUPS CONVENE

Fifteen Neighborhood Block Watch Captains from the Leschi and Madrona Community met to discuss how they can better relate public safety concerns with each other. The East Precinct Crime Prevention Coalition was identified as a vehicle to relate public safety concerns to the Precinct Commander and learn about legislation that could help alleviate criminal activity.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES OPENS SHARE SHELTER DOOR

Scott Morrow from Share informed the Central District Coordinator that Catholic Community Services will be housing the Share Shelter Program starting Friday, February 2, 2007. A few years ago, transients were allowed shelter at 6 p.m. and departed the location at 6 a.m.. The Central District Coordinator will encourage Share and Catholic Community Services to inform the surrounding communities of the shelter.

DELRIDGE

CITY RESPONSE TO FLOODED BASEMENT

During the heavy rainstorm, a Youngstown neighborhood resident reported that her basement was flooding badly and needed an expert in drainage problems to assess the situation and advise her on how to correct the problem. Since she had no idea where to even start, she contacted the Delridge District Coordinator and was referred to Seattle Public Utilities Community Relations Division. She explained having seepage in her basement since the fall and the recent winter rain and wind storm had made the situation worse. Long after the heavy rain had stopped, she still got several inches of water in

Happenings, continued on following page...

HAPPEN IGS your neighborhood

the basement. She went through the steps outlined on the SPU web site to determine whether she had a leak, including draining her down-spouts away from the house. She was informed to call 386-1800 the next time her basement flooded, and a crew would be sent out to assess the situation and determine if there are problems with the drainage system in her neighborhood. When the basement flooded a few days later, she called SPU at 4:30 am and a crew was onsite within 30 minutes. They tracked down the problem to a vacant house nearby with a probable burst pipe. For now things are a little drier for this Youngstown resident.

EAST

NEW NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION AT THE SOUTHWESTERN CORNER OF CAPITOL HILL

A group of apartment tenants are organizing at the southwestern corner of Capitol Hill (lower Olive Way East neighborhood).

The neighborhood is composed entirely of apartment buildings; including special needs housing, such as facilities owned by the Pioneer Services of America, and apartments and condominiums. The area has one of the largest densities in the East District.

Last year community organizers were awarded a Neighborhood Matching Fund Small and Simple award for a project called "24 Hours in the Neighborhood", based on a series of events throughout the neighborhood to find the "Soul of the Community". This year they will be formalizing neighborhood organization.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNED OVER CLOSURE TO THE PUBLIC OF THE LOWELL SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

Lowell School officials fenced and closed to the public the popular Lowell School Playground. School administrators stated that the playground and playfield had become an area where illegal activities and disturbances occurred regularly, especially during the night.

However, the playground is used by neighborhood children and their families and it is considered one of the few amenities for the growing families with children on the Hills. The playground was built in part with a Department of Neighborhoods Matching Fund award and neighborhood volunteer efforts in the 90's. The East Precinct Crime Prevention Coordinator and school officials are planning a neighborhood meeting to discuss public safety issues and to offer alternatives to the playground closure.

LAKE UNION

NIGHTLIFE ORDINANCE

The City provided information on the proposed Nightlife Ordinance at the Fremont Neighborhood Council meeting. After the presentation, members expressed support for the ordinance. Members wanted to

Happenings, continued on following page...

Mayor Tours ROOSEVELT NEIGHBORHOOD

On February 17th, Mayor Nickels toured the Roosevelt neighborhood, hearing from community members about issues ranging from Sound Transit, economic growth, property owner responsibilities, and neighborhood density.





Jim O'Halloran, president of the Roosevelt Neighborhood Association (RNA), took Nickels and a committed group of neighbors up Roosevelt Way, to the P-Patch, across Froula Park, where the reservoir capping was discussed, down Brooklyn, and across 65th to visit with business owners, and back down Roosevelt Way to Ravenna to discuss Live/Work development plans.

Among others active in the community, the tour was also joined by Randy Weers, and Bess Steiner of the RNA and Tad Bigelow, Roosevelt High Class of '45.





HAPPEN IGS vour neighborhood

review the updated version of the ordinance before they take an official position.

34 UNIQUE MUSEUMS EXHIBIT

Thirty-four unique museums of King County, in partnership with History House of Greater Seattle located in Fremont, will share their wonderfully eclectic and diverse mixture of historical interests. Featured museums include Cambodian Museum - Killing Field Memorial, Camp Fire USA, Center for Wooden Boats, Husky Hall of Fame Museum, Hydroplane and Race Boat Museum, NW African American Museum, NW Nikkei Museum, Rosalie Whyel Museum of Doll Art, Seattle Architecture Foundation, Seattle Museum of Mysteries, Seattle Metropolitan Police Museum and much more. The exhibit is meant to be an introduction and guide to future exploration of these special museums. It will run from February 3 through September 2 2007.

RED BULL SOAP BOX DERBY

Red Bull would like to sponsor a Soap Box Derby Race event in Fremont on September 29. Last year, this event took place in St. Louis. The event usually draws national media attention and thousands of spectators. Red Bull has been in contact with the Seahawks, Sonics, and Alaska Airlines as possible race participants. Fremont Chamber and Neighborhood Council seemed excited about the event.

NORTH

LAKE CITY FARMERS MARKET LOOKS AT NEW SITE

The Neighborhood Farmers Markets Alliance has talked with a Lake City church about using the church's parking lot as its new Lake City Farmers Market site starting in 2008. The Alliance has given the 13th Church of Christ Scientist a proposal. This church is located at NE 125th St. and 35th Ave. NE, a prime location for capturing auto and pedestrian traffic from many directions. 2007 is the last year that the farmers market will be at the City parking lot behind Fire Station #39, which will be demolished around the end of this year to make way for a new and expanded fire station.

NORTHWEST

DOGS IN PARKS

Neighborhood residents have been complaining about dogs (both off-leash and on) tearing up the grass in Greenwood Park, located at N 87th & Fremont N. Some of the volunteers from the Friends of Greenwood Park are working together to try to educate park users about the impacts on the park. Parents are also concerned about the safety of their toddlers when off-leash dogs roam free. NDC staff is coordinating with Parks Dept and Animal Control to assist in addressing this issue.

Happenings, continued on following page...



HAPPEN IGS SOUTHEAST Vour neighborhood

RAINIER BEACH COALITION FOR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT HOLDS FOURTH ANNUAL COMMUNITY ACTION MEETING

Over 60 people attended the fourth annual Rainier Beach Community Action Meeting. The meeting is an opportunity for Rainier Beach residents to discuss the needs and issues of Rainier Beach and to look back at accomplishments of the previous year. The event included food and refreshments and gave participants an opportunity to voice their hopes and concerns about Rainier Beach.

Following an organizational fair, which featured local organizations and institutions highlighting their work, individuals were encouraged to move into smaller groups and discuss priorities in the areas of economic development, public safety and transportation and education.

Many ideas were put forward including more intervention specialists in schools for kids at risk of becoming addicted to drugs; attention to environmental issues; helping the academic programs at Rainier Beach High School measure up to its athletic programs; promoting multiple transportation resources for residents; and training teachers on culturally appropriate education models.

The Rainier Beach Coalition will continue to steward the implementation of these community ideas.

SOUTHWEST

MORGAN JUNCTION THRIFTWAY TAKING "COMMAND"

The West Seattle Thriftway, located at 4201 SW Morgan St in the Morgan Junction, is working closely with the Morgan Community Association (MoCA) to establish a communications command center on its premises in the event of an emergency or catastrophic event. During the recent windstorm and resulting outages, Thriftway became a communications hub for the residents of the neighborhood, many of whom dropped-in to share information on available resources in the neighborhood and on the latest efforts by City Light crews to restore power.

WINTER FARMERS MARKET DEBUTS

The West Seattle Farmers Market kicked-off its inaugural winter season on Sunday, January 7, in its usual location in a bank parking lot located on the southwest corner of California Ave SW and SW Alaska St. Though relatively small when compared to the peak season version, shoppers can still find a host of produce, meats, cheeses, pasta, and baked goods. The last day of the Winter Farmers Market is February 25.

New Cambodian Association IN HIGH POINT

A group of Cambodian residents living in High Point has applied to the Department of Neighborhoods Outreach Fund to help form the new High Point Khmer Association, an offshoot of the Healthy Homes Project funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. They hope to bring their community together in order to have a voice in the newly redeveloped High Point neighborhood. The purpose of this association is to have a stronger presence in the community since most of members have limited English speaking skills. They want to be able to participate in what goes on in the greater community and contribute toward the betterment of the neighborhood in terms of policy, decision making, and other activities. They want to engage Cambodian youth and teach them about their culture, values and language. The association wants to be the residents* voice in addressing either the barriers or opportunities within the West Seattle community. Funds from the Department of Neighborhoods will be used to print flyers, design a logo, advertise, and hold community gatherings to explain to community residents what the organization is about.

COMBINED DISTRICT COUNCIL continued from page 3.

professional citizen," he announced, and summed up the key to community building with, "Community Building is building relationships with people in your community." With a large community of immigrants and refugees, many of whom have limited English, bringing people together is linguistically and culturally challenging. Ron described the partnerships he has forged both among community members and with people and departments of the City.



Ron Boddie leads a break out session.

Carol Burton of the Heron Habitat Helpers in Magnolia was next. Carol has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years to clean up and protect the 59 (count from last year) Heron nests in the Kiwanis Ravine. She gave a great step by step outline of how to raise money, starting with researching sources and ending with "I always write personal thank you's to donors, no matter the size of the gift."

Coco Sherman, from the Laurelhurst neighborhood,

has been organizing that neighborhood's Neighbor Appreciation Day event for years (over 10) and, again, her practical, on the ground experience made recruiting volunteers sound like fun. One of Coco's "pearls" was this, "You've got to have some events that just get people together, to enjoy themselves where you aren't asking for money, or time, or other resources."

Cindi Barker, from the Morgan Junction neighborhood, had this great advice "Keep talking, keep listening, always be willing to compromise." Maybe the best advice Cindi shared was, "Don't leave meetings mad."

Kathy Nyland from the Georgetown neighborhood described the announcement of the relocation of SW Airlines into her neighborhood as the match that lit up that neighborhood. With this impending threat, the neighbors mobilized like there was no tomorrow and hundreds of letters and phone calls, meetings, and in-office sessions with elected officials and courting the media paid off in, not only SW Airlines NOT mov-

ing to Boeing Field, but Georgetown was on the map and the neighborhood is seeing a new burst of activism.

The last panelist was Matt Fox, long time activist in the University District. Matt broke it down this way, "There are two kinds of activism - the things you want to accomplish and the things you want to stop." Matt's example of a "thing you want to do" -



Matt Fox, U District activist, speaks to audience.

save and secure University Heights as a community amenity; and a "thing you want to stop" was the installation of parking meters north of 50th on University Way NE. Matt's parting advice was encouraging peo-

> ple not to be afraid to confront and disagree with policies, opinions, and people.

The break out sessions were lively and animated and a good indication of the power of the day's work. Kudos to the District Councils who pulled this together and took care of the myriad details necessary for a city-wide event like this.



Group discusses outreach strategies for community involvement.

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